DEVAL L. PATRICK GOVERNOR

GREGORY BIALECKI SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS & CABLE

1000 Washington St., Suite 820 Boston, MA 02118 (617) 305-3580 FAX (617) 478-2591 www.mass.gov/dtc BARBARA ANTHONY UNDERSECRETARY OF

UNDERSECRETARY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

GEOFFREY G. WHY
COMMISSIONER

April 28, 2014

RE: Petition of Time Warner Cable for Review of FCC Form 1240 and Form 1205 for

the Great Barrington, North Adams, and Pittsfield Systems, D.T.C. 13-10

Dear Issuing Authority:

The Department of Telecommunications and Cable ("Department") will hold a public and evidentiary hearing, pursuant to G. L. c. 166A, § 15 and 207 C.M.R. § 6.03, to investigate the basic service tier programming, equipment, and installation rates for all of the rate regulated municipalities in Massachusetts served by Time Warner Cable, in response to its filings. The hearing will be held at 11:00 A.M. on June 12, 2014, at 1000 Washington Street, Hearing Room 1-E, Boston, MA, and is a formal hearing conducted under G. L. c. 30A and the Standard Adjudicatory Rules of Practice and Procedure at 801 C.M.R. §§ 1.00 *et seq.* Time Warner Cable, as the cable operator serving your municipality, is required to arrange for notice of the hearing, both by newspaper publication and by cablecasting. G. L. c. 166A, § 15; 207 C.M.R. § 6.05. A copy of the hearing notice that was provided to Time Warner Cable for publication is enclosed for informational purposes.

As the issuing authority for a municipality served by Time Warner Cable, you may want to participate in this hearing. Please note that under Massachusetts regulations, issuing authorities are not automatically parties to rate proceedings. 801 C.M.R. § 1.01(9). While Department proceedings allow for full public input from all interested persons, an interested person may participate as a party only if it files a petition to intervene and such petition is subsequently granted by the Department. *Id.* The petition to intervene must state with specificity how the petitioner is substantially and specifically affected by the rate proceeding. *Id.* 

An issuing authority that is granted party status has the right to participate fully in the proceeding, including the right to cross-examine the cable operator's witnesses at the hearing; the right to receive all correspondence and documents provided by the cable operator to the Department; and the right to appeal the Department's Rate Order. *Id.* §§ 1.01(5)(f), 1.01(10)(f), 1.01(13). An intervenor is also allowed to participate in discovery. *Id.* § 1.01(8)(a). For example, the intervenor may submit to the cable operator prior to the hearing written questions related to the rate proceeding, which the cable operator is required to answer. If your municipality wishes to intervene, it must file its petition to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business on June 6, 2014.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the hearing procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,

s/ Catrice C. Williams

Catrice C. Williams Secretary of the Department